

NEWS

For Immediate Release Dec. 5, 2017

<u>UPDATED: SCAQMD Issues Smoke Advisory for Fire Burning in the</u> <u>Lake View Terrace, Sylmar and Santa Clarita Areas</u>

[NOTE: This Advisory was updated at 2:00 p.m. to include the Rye Fire]

This advisory is in effect through Wednesday morning, Dec. 6. SCAQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

A brush fire, named the Creek Fire, is burning in Los Angeles County near Lake View Terrace and Sylmar. The burn area is reported to be approximately 11,000 acres with zero percent containment. Strong northeast winds are expected to continue through at least Thursday afternoon bringing smoke into the western portion of Los Angeles County. Air quality may reach **Unhealthy** levels or higher in areas directly impacted by smoke.

A second fire, named the Rye Fire, is burning in Los Angeles County near Santa Clarita. The burn area is reported to be approximately 1,000 acres with zero percent containment.

Areas of direct smoke impacts and Unhealthful air quality include portions of:

- West San Fernando Valley (Forecast Area 6),
- East San Fernando Valley (Forecast Area 7), and
- Southwest Los Angeles County Coastal (Forecast Area 3),
- Northwest Los Angeles County Coastal (Forecast Area 2).

All individuals are urged to exercise caution and avoid unnecessary outdoor activities in any area directly impacted by smoke. This includes areas where residents can see or smell smoke.

In any area impacted by smoke: Everyone should avoid any vigorous outdoor or indoor exertion; people with respiratory or heart disease, pregnant women, older adults, and

children should remain indoors. Keep windows and doors closed or seek alternate shelter. Run your air conditioner if you have one and keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to prevent bringing additional smoke inside. Avoid using a swamp cooler or whole-house fan to prevent bringing additional smoke inside. To avoid worsening the health effects of smoke, don't use indoor or outdoor wood-burning appliances, including fireplaces.

- SCAQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: <u>ftp://ftp.aqmd.gov/pub/globalist/Advisory.pdf</u>
- To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to http://AirAlerts.org
- To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see http://www3.aqmd.gov/webappl/gisaqi2/home.aspx
- For more information on avoiding health impacts from smoke, see SCAQMD's Wildfire Smoke & Ash Health & Safety Tips page at: http://www.aqmd.gov/wildfire-health-info-smoke-tips

SCAQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties.